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## CRITICISM OF CONDUCT OF SOCIALIST COMPETITION

Jiri Cysar

Comment: The following description of socialist competition in a Brnc foundry gives an indignant criticism of socialist competition as conducted in that particular foundry, and a discussion of the principles of socialist competition in general.

Prague, 2 May -- The workers in the gray cast-iron foundry of the Brno Machine-Building Plants and the Bohumir Smeral Foundry decided to have a real socialist competition. They chose four criteria and awarded points as though they were playing soccer.

The first and main point of the socialist competition is the maintenance of working morale. The base is 100 points. For exemplary working morale it to 1400 hours. If one works 8 hours a day, he receives 100 points. The working day is from 0600 second criterion is attendance at work. If someone works 48 hours a week, which is the amount required by law, according to these competition rules this for every extra hour of overtime the number of points increases further. The clicks. If a person goes to work regularly and works 48 hours a week, he receives a total of 200 points.

The third criterion actually concerns production. Every person is allowed 7 percent rejects. If he has only that number, he receives 100 points. 100 points; if he works 48 hours a week, he receives 100 points; if he has 7 percent rejects, he receives 100 points. That makes 300 points. That is

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The competition does not overlook output and norm fulfillment. The fourth and final point of the competition is for molders only. The pieccwork wage is taken as the base. Whoever fulfills this norm receives 100 points. The number of points increases progressively as this base is exceeded.

An uninformed person reading these lines might think them a discussion of textile ration points, or a report from a bookie. Quite the contrary. This is the way the socialist competition and the best workers in the foundry of the Bohumir Smeral Machine-Building Plant are evaluated.

In the plant this type of competition is considered proper. The number of points achieved determines the best worker, and the number of points indicates his reward. The best molder, for example, received 719 points; the best core worker, 400 points; the best scrubber, 466 points; and the best auxiliary worker, 454 points.

How is it possible to award points for determination, conscientiousness, love for one's country, which the founders have demonstrated by their work? How is it possible to express the working heroism of a founder by a number of points?

"In no capitalist country has creative work received such recognition and honor, or been awarded such glory and significence as in the countries of people's democracy. We have heroes of labor in every field today." Thus writes the periodical of that plant. And in the same breath it recommends awarding points to workers.

There is a difference between a competition in soccer and a socialist competition in a factory. Socialist competition helps to increase production and to make it more efficient. The best worker should exemplify everything which works in that direction. Good working morale alone is not enough; this is the natural duty of every worker. The best worker should excel the others in output. He should impart his experiences to all in order that all the workers may achieve good results. And, finally, his personal characteristics and qualities should be taken into consideration. These include his attitude republic.

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